

city college news

Sharing your views on Ramping Up For Success

This issue of City College News features a range of staff reactions to the March 1 "Vision 2003: Ramping Up For Success" event. Read and remember. Everyone who participated deserves credit for the success of this event. Your participation was the essential ingredient in making March 1 a major milestone on our journey to excellence.

Reflections on "Ramping Up For Success"

I must admit that while I showed up on the morning of March 1 at the Metro Convention Center with an open mind, I also had some sense of trepidation. Having been to more conferences in my career than I care to admit and endured many hours listening to an endless array of speakers, I wondered just what the day held in store and whether I would need to practice my finely-honed ability to take a nap while keeping my eyes open and looking avidly interested. And what exactly did it mean to get "ramped up for success"? Would it hurt?

I quickly discovered to my delight that the day was to be a rare opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and to be reminded of the impact that each of us has on the students we serve. I found the day to be inspiring and thought-provoking and each speaker I heard offered a useful perspective on relevant issues.

The message from the day was clear: change is here to stay. And change we must if we are to remain on the

cutting edge in offering the programs and services our students seek. Our challenge collectively will be to remember our priorities as we negotiate the chaos that change often brings, to create order and retain our focus, to provide the best programs and services to meet the needs of our diverse student population. Our challenge individually is to determine what each of us can do differently in the way that we deliver education and services to our students.

In the midst of this, we each have an opportunity to make a difference (and practice those "eye hugs") every time we interact with a student in the classroom, in the hallways, in the cafeteria. With the new facilities under development and the talents and expertise of our faculty and staff, we are well placed to provide our students — our customers — with a seamless, stimulating, exciting, and relevant educational experience.

*Diane Moore
Counsellor, Counselling,
Career & Employment
Services, Student Affairs*



GBC's new Associate Registrar is a numbers man

If you ask George Brown's new Associate Registrar Jeff Bondy his favourite pastimes, believe it or not, math and statistics are right up there on the list. "I loved math in high school and in university," he says. If you look at his work history, it's evident that he takes his passion for numbers seriously.

As Associate Registrar, Bondy is responsible for assisting the Registrar in enrolment management and planning activities for the college. His first mission is to look at administrative processes and work on streamlining them in order to maximize service to students. "We're always looking at ways to make things faster

and easier for them," he says.

Bondy joined George Brown after spending two and a half years at OCAS (Ontario College Application Services) as a statistical analyst. It was during his time there that he realized he wanted to work in a college environment. "I began to realize that registrars have the unique advantage of knowing everything that's going on across all divisions. I thought that it would be an exciting job. So when I heard about the new position at George Brown, I applied and was thrilled to get it."

Prior to joining OCAS, Bondy was a business analyst with Mutual Life (now Clarica). Before that, he

spent time with the Ontario Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations as a risk analyst in charge of managing standards for elevating devices. "My job was to make sure they didn't fall," he says. "Or at least make sure that the mechanical engineers were there to do that."

Born and bred in Stratford, Bondy received his BSc from the University of Guelph. That's when he "decided to go down the path of actuarial science."

Although he has worked in several different environments, he says that the college experience is the one he is looking forward to the most. "I'm very excited about working at George Brown.

The job is challenging, the atmosphere is great, and the people are wonderful."



Jeff Bondy takes his OCAS experience to his new role in the college Registrar's Office



The Faculty of Business and Creative Arts hosts Open House
Business and Creative Arts opened its doors for its annual Open House on March 8. Jewellery and Fashion students had a chance to showcase their creations and make a few sales. Visitors had the opportunity to browse through the various classrooms and labs and speak to instructors. Shown below are students Gwen Park and Becky Park selling the work of Gwenpark Jewellery Design.



Child Care Cook's Day Out a hit with Toronto child care cooks
On February 28, more than 60 child care cooks from the Toronto area and beyond were treated to an educational and fun day out, complete with food, wine, free samples, special workshops, vendor displays and lots of prizes. This is the second year that the School of Hospitality and Tourism and the Early Childhood Education Program have hosted George Brown's official "Child Care Cooks Day Out." Michael Cooke, Vice-President of Academic Excellence, welcomed the guests, while David Wolfman contributed his time to provide a cooking demonstration. The day's agenda was organized by ECE Coordinator Diane Bergeron and a team that included cooks from the seven George Brown College Child Care Centres: Denise Brandon, Andrea Brown, Sylvia Browne, Nola Joseph, Rob Casparay, Elsa Alao and Nancy Krecker, as well as Child Care Supervisor Sue Feltoe.



Tutti a Tavola brings everyone to the table

More than 200 guests arrived at Siegfried's on February 26 for *Tutti a Tavola* – “Everyone to the Table” – the annual fundraiser for students in the Italian Culinary Arts Program. This ever-popular culinary event featured an array of Italian cuisine samplings, from shellfish and cheeses to coffee and wine, as well as live musical performances. The Italian Trade Commission, along with a variety of high profile restaurants, food suppliers and wineries, sponsored the festivities, which were organized by George Brown chef Ivano Zambotti. Participants included Mildred Pierce, Biagio Ristorante, Black & Blue Smoke Bar, Bruno's Fine Foods, Pasquale Brothers, Sasha Bread, and J. Cipelli Wines and Spirits, among others. Proceeds from the event support the post-diploma students' six-week externship to Italy.



Clockwise from upper left: Pastis Restaurant chef and Italian Culinary Arts alumni Scott Pennock with student David Hurly; Chef Ivano Zambotti; student volunteer Carolyn Peake; student Ik-Sun Son, Bruno's Fine Foods Executive Chef Claudio MacLean and Chef Roberto Scorzello; and Margo Sheppard, GBC Foundation Director, with Scott Robbins, Coordinator of Special Events and Externships.



Vision 2003 a "remarkable undertaking"

GBCs March 1st event offered something for everyone, a remarkable undertaking. The wide range of presenters nudged, enlivened, conferred statistics and best practices, thus positively affecting all participants in some way. This key element is fast becoming the hallmark of GBC, the capacity to identify collective goals as well as sustain the uniqueness of programs and departments. This is also one of GBC's ongoing challenges since our various levels of participation at GBC are almost as diverse as our student body.

Another challenge is to balance the paradox between enhancing our learning environment and community relationships with the reality of

harsh, monetary influences that do not hold education, health and human welfare in high regard. Yet, success is indeed the best revenge!

We at GBC are responsible for providing the skills and wisdom necessary for our graduates to navigate a complex world and unpredictable future. Our own resilience and success at creating innovation as well as facing adversity will typify that which we demonstrate to our students.

Thank you to the March 1 team for keeping our "learning community" focus at the forefront as well as for an organizational tour de force.

Mandy Bonisteel

Coordinator, Community Services and Health Sciences





Vision 2003 going in the right direction

George Brown College has great signs, if you believe Stuart McLean. In his witty, whimsical story, Stuart described the signs that get people from here to there.

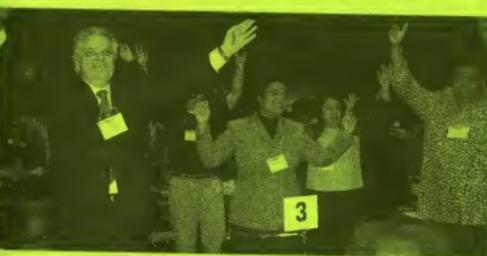
The Ramping Up for Success conference was a sign, too — a good sign, pointing to George Brown's organizational capacity and a healthy sense of imagination. Who would have guessed we would be charmed by Ursula Franklin's exploration of the difference between knowing and understanding, and energized by the heart beat of the drums, all in one day?

Haroon Siddiqui showed us that Toronto is the world's most cosmopolitan city. Most of us are immigrants, and a slim majority is of visible

minority groups. He urged us to build bridges between students and the workplace, to play the democratizing role of helping them take their places as productive citizens. We need to make every contact relevant to their reality. The excuse that they need to adapt the mainstream no longer works in Toronto. George Brown has a good record but a glance around the room showed we still lack diversity in our staffing pattern.

The conference gave us a chance to learn, to see each other, and to dance to the drums. Very good signs indeed.

Lynne Brennan
Coordinator, Community
Worker Program





More staff thoughts on

I just wanted to take a minute to tell you how impressed I was with the speakers, sessions and overall program on March 1. I was truly inspired by Frank's speech. Congratulations to you and the rest of the team who made – and continue to make – it happen!

Maureen Loweth

*Vice President & National
Director, Fidelity Institute
GBC Board of Governors*



I think it's a good idea to get the staff in all areas to get together and sort of talk about the same subjects and it's very informative... Maybe even once a year would be a good idea. When you hear people describing their life stories (Crystal Kuykendall) it makes you understand that you could do more with the situation you're in. It uplifts you.

*Joe Manno
Facilities Management*



The event was A FIRST CLASS EVENT where not a single detail was forgotten and the kind that needs absolute commitment on the part of everybody! The speakers... the presenters... the panelists were great! The workshops were great, the format, the time, the venue, the food, the entertainment, EVERYTHING! Some of my staff voiced their pride to be part of this organization and they expressed that here is where they chose to spend the rest of their working life and be part of the new vision for The City College. What an achievement.

CONGRATULATIONS!

*Maria-Cristina Grossi
Manager, Accounts
Receivable, Finance*

"Ramping Up for Success"



"Ramping up for success" was GREAT, lots of participation, lots of enthusiasm. The speakers were right-on, up to date and relevant. If you don't feel better about your place in the college, you weren't there. SHAME ON YOU!

*Gary Smith
Faculty of Technology*



I'm sure you have been and will continue to be flooded with e-mails of praise about Ramping Up for Success.

Right after the event, I rushed back to the office to write down all the ideas I had. The day was inspiring, motivational and a welcome treat from the everyday. Friday confirmed for me that The City College, George Brown is a place that I can be proud to be a part of. Everyone is committed to the success of the school and our students.

Again, thank you.

*Diana Pugliese
Liaison*

The Friday event was such a good one it has motivated me as a support staff to achieve excellence in all aspects of my job. Thank you to the management team and to all volunteers for putting it together.

*Vickie Espinosa-Yazdani
Student Fees Coordinator*

It goes without saying that Dr. Kuykendall was absolutely incredible... I felt the event was a huge success and would look forward to attending another similar function... As somebody who has had event management experience, I appreciate the planning and hard work required to put an event of that magnitude together and I felt that it couldn't have been better organized or run.

Congratulations on a job very well done!!!!

*Mark Grant
Support Services Officer
Counselling, Career & Employment Services*

Nothing from my experience could have been more perfect... The sessions I chose were better than sessions I have attended at international conferences. The lunchtime speaker will be very hard to top. People I talk to are raving on and on about her... Everyone I have talked to so far today has emphatically said what a great (not good) event it was. They are charged up and positive. What we need to do now is reinforce these very positive, proactive feelings... we need to build on the base that is already there!

Judi Linton

Associate Director, Student Affairs

I thought it was a wonderful and well-organized event. I found out that more people feel the same way I do within the college and hopefully it's caused a positive effect through the staff that attended. I think we're going towards a more positive attitude and hopefully there's a good future ahead.

Pat Sturino

*Student Services Officer
Faculty of Technology*



upcoming events

10th Annual Labour Fair

Thursday, March 14 to Wednesday, March 20

This year's Fair will centre on the theme "Are You Ready? Working in Uncertain Times." Call Maureen Hynes at 416-415-2549 or e-mail her at mhynes@gbrownnc.on.ca.

Metro Colleges Part-time Teachers' Mini-Conference

Saturday, March 16 (9am to 12:30pm)

Casa Loma Campus

Call Margaret Whittleton at 416-415-4663.

Free True Colors® Workshop – sponsored by Marketing & Communications and Continuing Education

Monday, March 25 (6:30 to 9:30pm)

St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 128

Call 416-415-2000, ext. 3444 and press 3 to register.

Technology in the City

Tuesday, April 2 (9am to 8pm)

Centre for Advanced Microelectronics, Faculty of Technology – Casa Loma Campus, C Building

Intervenor Program Annual Open House

Wednesday, April 3 (11am to 2pm)

Nightingale Campus, Room B2

Call B.J. Landry at 416-415-2357 or e-mail blandry@gbrownnc.on.ca.

Free Career Planning Workshop – sponsored by Marketing & Communications and Continuing Education

Monday, April 8 (6:30 to 9:30pm)

St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 128

Call 416-415-2000, ext. 3444 and press 1 to register.

Theatre School Productions

Tuesday, April 9 to Saturday, April 20

Spring Repertory Session: *The Beaux' Stratagem* by George Farquhar and *Machinal* by Sophie Treadwell

George Brown Theatre, 530 King Street East

Tickets are \$12 for general admission, and pay-what-you-can for Saturday matinees.

Call 416-415-2167 to order tickets.

The George Brown Spring Fashion Show: Signatures 2002

Thursday, April 25 (7:30pm)

Tickets \$15 in advance

Location to be determined

Call Rosa Fracassa at 416-415-4854 ext. 3460.

news briefs

Student Satisfaction KPI results coming soon

Results from the Student Satisfaction Key Performance Indicators (KPI) survey are expected to be released some time in early April. The formal survey period at all Ontario colleges took place between February 4 and 15 and involved all post-secondary students in second semester and above. John Price, Manager of Special Projects for George Brown, says, "The Student Satisfaction Survey is always a challenge because it takes a lot of time and manpower to complete. We'd like to thank all the staff and students who assisted in administering the survey as well as the many students who took the time to provide us with thoughtful responses to the survey questions."

When survey results are released, interested students and staff will be able to check them out at their campus library or on the George Brown website at www.gbrownnc.on.ca/kpi2002. For information contact jprice@gbrownnc.on.ca or call 416-415-2543.



Child and Youth Worker students check out the job market

This year's Child and Youth Worker Job Fair at St. James campus drew more than 40 community partners. Over 90 second and third year students from the program attended the event organized by Brenda Pipitone and Andrew Buntin, where they had a chance to explore career opportunities and speak to prospective employers. Above, Donovan Samuels of Solution Counselling Services Inc. talks to a George Brown student about his organization and the job market.

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